

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 136939
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /056 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:SMBELL/JPBECKER/JLP
APPROVED BY ARA:TTODMAN
S/AB:EBUNKER
S/AB:SMLINOWITZ
USOAS:SWILSON
S/S:AWOTTO
S:JACAHILL

-----140118Z 056118 /62
O 140054Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL GRENADA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136939

FOR WHITE FROM BELL USDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAS, PN

SUBJECT: OASGA -- PANAMA AGENDA ITEM

1. IN HIS MEETING WITH PANAMA'S NEW AMBASSADOR HERE JUNE 10, THE SECRETARY ELECTED NOT TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF A REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY, AND SAID ONLY THAT HE WOULD BE HAVING BREAKFAST WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GONZALEZ REVILLA THE MORNING OF JUNE 15. (THE SECRETARY DID NOT WISH TO PROVIDE THE PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATORS WITH ANY LEVERAGE IN THE FORM OF A PATENT UNITED STATES DESIRE TO HAVE A JOINT REPORT.)

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2. FOR THE SECRETARY'S POSSIBLE USE, THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A REPORT WHICH COULD BE JOINT OR, WITH SLIGHT MODIFICATION, UNILATERAL.

3. FYI, THOUGH WE HAVE RUN INTO SOME SNAGS, THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE TO GO WELL. THE FIRST SESSION THIS WEEK IS SCHEDULED FOR 3:00 PM JUNE 13. WILL KEEP YOU

POSTED ON ANY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS HERE.

4. BEGIN TEXT. SINCE SUBMITTING THEIR SECOND JOINT REPORT TO THIS ASSEMBLY LAST YEAR, THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATION OF A NEW TREATY TO REPLACE THE 1903 HAY BUNAU-VARILLA AGREEMENT. AS PRESIDENT CARTER EMPHASIZED IN HIS PAN AMERICAN DAY SPEECH IN WASHINGTON, THE EARLY COMPLETION OF A NEW PANAMA CANAL TREATY IS A HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVE OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY. GENERAL TORRIJOS HAS SIMILARLY EMPHASIZED HIS DESIRE TO BRING THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. THE FOLLOWING EVENTS IN RECENT MONTHS DEMONSTRATE THE COMMITMENT OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO THIS OBJECTIVE:

-- THE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE PANAMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN WASHINGTON JANUARY 31 DURING WHICH THEY REAFFIRMED THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF FEBRUARY 1974.

-- A ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS IN PANAMA IN MID-FEBRUARY DURING WHICH THE TWO SIDES HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO IMPORTANT AND DIFFICULT OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

-- A ONE-DAY MEETING IN MID-MARCH IN WASHINGTON DURING WHICH THE NEGOTIATORS CONTINUED THE PROCESS
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COMMENCED IN PANAMA THE MONTH BEFORE.

-- AN INTENSIVE ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS COMMENCING MAY 9 IN WASHINGTON, WHICH IS CONTINUING NOW.

6. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES SINCE JANUARY HAVE FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

-- THE DURATION OF THE NEW TREATY.

-- THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION WHICH WILL OPERATE THE CANAL DURING THE LIFE OF THE TREATY.

-- THE STATUS OF THE AMERICAN AND PANAMANIAN EMPLOYEES OF THAT ENTITY.

-- AN IDENTIFICATION OF THE LANDS AND WATERS WHICH ARE NECESSARY FOR THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE

CANAL.

-.PROVISIONS TO ASSURE THAT THE CANAL REMAINS
PERMANENTLY SECURE AND OPEN TO THE SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS
ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS.

7. WHILE FINAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THESE ISSUES
HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED, THE NEGOTIATORS FROM BOTH
SIDES BELIEVE THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE.
THE PRESENT DISCUSSIONS ARE FOCUSED ON THE DETAILS OF
THESE SUBJECTS. IN ADDITION, THE NEGOTIATORS WILL BE
ADDRESSING ONE OTHER ISSUE WHICH UNTIL THIS TIME HAS
NOT BEEN THE SUBJECT OF FORMAL DISCUSSION - THE ECONOMIC
BENEFITS WHICH PANAMA IS TO RECEIVE FROM CANAL OPERATIONS.

8. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE NEGOTIATORS DURING THE PRESENT
ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS IS TO COME TO CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT
ON THESE ISSUES. ONCE THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED
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AND THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY
TO REVIEW THE NEGOTIATORS' WORK, THE PROCESS OF TREATY
DRAFTING WILL COMMENCE. WHILE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO
PREDICT WITH ACCURACY WHEN A NEW TREATY WILL BE READY
FOR THE INITIATION OF RATIFICATION PROCEDURES IN BOTH
COUNTRIES, THE NEGOTIATORS BELIEVE THAT AN AGREEMENT
THIS YEAR, POSSIBLY BEFORE THE END OF THE SUMMER, IS
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PAGE 01 STATE 136939
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/PAN:JPBECKER

APPROVED BY: ARA/PAN:EJNADEAU

-----151416Z 077523 /43

O 151347Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE 6030

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136939

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT STATE 136939, SENT GRENADA 14 JUNE:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136939

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, AGREEMENTS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2156846
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OASGA -- PANAMA AGENDA ITEM
TAGS: PORG, EWWT, PN, US, OAS
To: GRENADA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c9c1417d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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